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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/666,728	09/19/2003	Jennifer Amys	1640.001US1	6050

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EXAMINER

ADAMS, CHARLES D

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2164

DATE MAILED: 03/13/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b> 10/666,728	<b>Applicant(s)</b> AMYS ET AL.	
	<b>Examiner</b> Charles D. Adams	<b>Art Unit</b> 2164	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

#### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

#### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 9-19-2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

#### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.


#### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

#### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some \*    c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.



**SAM RIMELL**  
PRIMARY EXAMINER

#### Attachment(s)

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)   | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date: _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)  | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)             |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>2-9-2004</u> | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____  |

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112***

1. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claims 1-3 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claims 1 and 3 recite the limitation "logging a date and/or time". The use of the phrase "and/or" renders the scope of the claim language indefinite.

Claim 2 recites the limitation "the assigned life cycle IDs" in line 5. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 101***

2. 35 U.S.C. 101 reads as follows:

Whoever invents or discovers any new and useful process, machine, manufacture, or composition of matter, or any new and useful improvement thereof, may obtain a patent therefor, subject to the conditions and requirements of this title.

Claim 2 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 because the claimed invention is directed to non-statutory subject matter. A series of databases is claimed. However, no useful result is claimed.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

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3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

4. Claims 1-3 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Kanai (US Pre-Grant Publication 2004/0205006).

As to claim 1, Kanai teaches:

Two or more different systems producing electronic data (see paragraph [0130]. A GET request is sent from a management computer to a shop computer) relating to a transaction involving documentation communicated in an electronic form (see paragraph [0130]. The GET request is related to a transaction involving a reservation communicated in an electronic form);

Processing copies of the electronic data to identify electronic documentation items (see paragraph [0130]. The GET request is processed and electronic information is identified) and at least one key value associated with an electronic documentation item (the GET request will be sent to a shop computer and therefore contains the identity of the shop computer (a key value));

Using the key value to look up a transaction identifier associated with the transaction (see paragraphs [0130] and [0131]. The identity of the shop computer is

used to determine what computer to connect to. The shop computer then determines a transaction ID);

Indexing the documentation items according to key value and transaction identifier (see paragraph [0134] and Figure 9. The documentation items (reservation information) are stored according to the key value (a shopID is stored according to the shop identification) and transaction identifier).

Archiving the documentation items in a data storage system or device (see paragraph [0134] and Figure 9. The documentation items (reservation information) are saved in a database); and

Logging a data and/or time associated with at least some of the documentation items (see paragraph [0139] and Figure 9. A date and time are saved in a database along with at least some of the documentation items).

As to claim 2, Kanai teaches:

A transaction specification database that contains specifications and schema for one or more transaction types and key values of each transaction type (see paragraph [0131] and Figure 9. Shop ID is a key value);

A life cycle Index table that contains the key values of the processed transactions and the assigned life cycle IDs for the key values (see paragraph [0131] and Figure 9. The ID for a transaction is functionally equivalent to a life cycle ID, as the transaction will possess that ID for its 'life cycle');

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An archive database that contains the archived documents or items and their life cycle IDs (see paragraph [0131] and Figure 9. The database shown contains the archived documents (cart message), and their 'life cycle IDs' (transaction ID)); and

A log detail database that provides chronological order to transactions by logging and time stamping each transaction parsed (see paragraph [0131] and Figure 9).

As to claim 3, Kanai teaches:

A first interface used to couple the system with a first external system producing first electronic data relating to a transaction involving documentation communicated in an electronic form (see paragraph [0083]. A client computer is external from the transaction management system (see paragraph [0130]));

A second interface used to couple the system with a second external system producing second electronic data relating to the transaction (see paragraph [0130]. The vendor computer is also external from the transaction management system); and

Wherein the system is operable to:

Process copies of the first and second electronic data to identify electronic documentation items and at least one key value associated with an electronic documentation item (see paragraph [0130]. The Transaction Management System processes electronic data received from both client computers and shop computers. The electronic data received from the first external system (the client), in the form of a GET request, contains the identity of the shop computer (the identity of the shop computer is a key value) and reservation information (electronic documentation). The

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second electronic data, when received from the vendor system, is processed to identify documentation items, a shopID, and a transaction ID);

Use the key value to look up a transaction identifier associated with the transaction (see paragraphs [0130] and [0131]. The address of the shop computer is used to determine what computer to connect to. The shop computer then determines a transaction ID);

Index the documentation items according to key value and transaction identifier (see paragraph [0134] and Figure 9. The documentation items (reservation information) are stored according to the key value (a shopID is stored according to the shop identification) and transaction identifier);

Archive the documentation items (see paragraph [0134] and Figure 9. The documentation items (reservation information) are saved in a database); and

Log a date and/or time associated with at least some of the documentation items (see paragraph [0139] and Figure 9. A date and time are saved in a database along with at least some of the documentation items).

### ***Conclusion***

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Charles D. Adams whose telephone number is (571) 272-3938. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30 AM - 5:00 PM, M - F.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Charles Rones can be reached on (571) 272-4085. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Charles Adams  
Art Unit 2164



**SAM RIMELL**  
**PRIMARY EXAMINER**